SBIR/STTR Added to the Superfund Basic Research Program

The Superfund Basic Research Program is pleased to announce the introduction of the Small Business Innovative Research and Small Business Technology Transfer Research (SBIR/STTR) programs. The Superfund Basic Research Program has been very successful in developing innovative remediation technologies through the support of basic science. However, there is a need to ensure that these processes and others are further developed, field tested, and applied to real-world situations.

The SBIR/STTR programs are ideally suited to address this need.

Accordingly, in August 2001 the NIEHS released a request for applications (RFA) titled "Innovative Technologies for Hazardous Waste Site Remediation and Monitoring," making funds available through the SBIR/STTR grants mechanism. This RFA was designed to foster the commercialization of technologies, devices, and products that would provide improved methods for the cleanup and monitoring of hazardous substances.

The RFA generated an impressive response that included a wide variety of technologies.

Applications for developing monitoring systems ranged from assays for monitoring environmental exposures in ecosystems, to monitoring for toxics produced by remediation processes, to developing real-time monitors at hazardous waste sites.

Remediation technologies included the full range of biological, physical, and chemical processes. Descriptions of the individual projects being funded can be found on the program website at http://benson.niehs.nih.gov/sbrp.

The realization of the mandates of the Superfund Basic Research Program is enhanced by its commitment to the SBIR/STTR objectives. It is essential that the technologies developed by the program, as well as other emerging remediation and monitoring technologies, be translated and commercialized into the public sector. It is anticipated that there will be future RFAs targeted to a variety of different topics related to the program.

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